

"A family of Southern Baptist Churches cooperating together to reach our world for Christ"



Ronnie Toon
Association Missionary

Missionary Moments

Ministry can be represented by either a *"rat race"* or a *"relay race."* Both require a great deal of energy, but a rat race has no clear sense of purpose. A relay race, however, has direction, a prescribed course, cooperation, and team spirit. One value of having a clear vision and a compelling strategy, is that it creates focus, paints a target and fuels a fire that draws us forward.

At the Annual Meeting of the Association, October 2017, the messengers approved a strong vision and a compelling strategy to accomplish this vision. Since that important day, we have sought to allow this vision to be our guide. Two of the tenants of our strategic plan are as follows:

- **To challenge each church to be intentional in developing ministry relationships beyond *"the walls of the church"* to the ends of the earth.**
- **To develop long term relationships beyond our association in church planting, sponsorship and leadership.**

Following are two ways these statements are being fulfilled.

1. **Wyoming Mission Trip, July 13-20.** Three teams of short-term missionaries are being built to serve three separate communities in Wyoming. Partnering with church planter, Chris Sims, these teams will be surveying, engaging communities with the Gospel and remodeling facilities for greater ministry effectiveness. This is an exciting opportunity and we look forward to seeing how the Father uses these teams.

One of these projects involves a specific need. One of our teams will be remodeling a former boy's foster home to become a retreat center for wounded ministry warriors. This is an ambitious undertaking and will require raising funds for materials. At the April Executive Board meeting, the association voted to take an association wide love offering on June 2. The goal is \$20,000.00 from our partnering churches.

The Servant Heart

**Independence Baptist Association's
Monthly Publication**

MAY 2019

VOLUME 18, ISSUE 5

100% of all funds raised will go towards the remodel of this retreat center. Each partnering church is being asked to promote and encourage generous giving to this worthy cause. Bulletin inserts are available and will be sent to each church for your use.

2. Also, during the April Board meeting, it was discussed and approved to explore a **partnership with Arkansas Valley Association in the Helena area.** While we are still exploring what this could look like and what might be involved, it seemed important to communicate this vision to you.

Both above are incredible opportunities for our association to further enhance our Acts 1:8 vision *"...to be witnesses in Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria, and the uttermost parts of the earth."*

Lastly, it is important to communicate the status of the camp. The Executive board suggested seven names to explore *"next steps"* for the camp. Out of these seven a team of five will be formed. At this point, the team consists of the following members: Bill Allen, Sulphur Rock; Greg Hodge, Emmanuel; Mike Fowler, Floral; Jerry Henderson, Newark. The fifth team member will be confirmed ASAP.

This team will begin their work soon and hope to have a report and possible recommendations for the August meeting of the Executive Board. This is a strong team and they will be thoughtful and diligent in their task. We are prayerful for their work.

We are grateful for the joy of serving and are truly humbled by the opportunities the Father presents to be engaged in His Kingdom work.

Be Encouraged!

Ronnie Toon
26 April 2019

Inside this issue:

Page 2: May and June Events and Church News

Page 3: ABSC, Acts 1:8, Other Events

Page 4: Birthdays & Anniversaries

National Day of Prayer

MAY

Events

2019

6th- The Ministers will meet at Doty's Funeral Home located at 2180 Batesville Blvd. for their monthly fellowship. It will begin at 10:30am. All minister's are invited to join in this time of prayer. The fellowship will continue at a local restaurant after the meeting.

(This will be the last fellowship until September 9th as we take a break for the summer months.)

16th- ACTS 1:8 This is a meeting for the leadership team and ministry coordinators and will be held at the IBA office from 6:30 to 8pm



27th- Memorial Day—Office Closed

Coming Up in June

20th- ACTS 1:8 Meeting at Compass Church located at 4440 Harrison St. from 7:00 to 8:30pm. The IBA Leadership Team, Ministry Coordinators and Site Leaders will meet with the ABSC Leadership for a joint session. Then each ministry will meet with their respective state coordinator in a breakout session.

Week of Prayer for Association Missions

May 19th-26th Prayer Guide

Sunday: Pray for Unity of Purpose

Monday: Pray for Fruitful Labor

Tuesday: Pray for Spiritual Protection

Wednesday: Pray for Spiritual Harvest

Thursday: Pray for Meaningful Partnerships

Friday: Pray for Strengthened Fellowship

Saturday: Pray for Kingdom Vision

Sunday: Pray for Spiritual Wisdom

The vision of the Independence Baptist Association is to empower partnering churches to effectively accomplish their Kingdom task. As an association of churches and congregations, we choose to cooperate so that we can develop partnerships and start new churches, strengthen and encourage church health and support leadership and promote peer networks.

Church News for May



Women's Tea for Thee

Saturday, May 4 - 10:00

Brunch Is Served!

Speaker Hannah Rodgers

Painting with VC

Be Our Guest!

Sulphur Rock Baptist Church Ladies



Leading Healthy Teams May 10, 2019 8am to 3pm

Compass Church will host **Leadercast Live**, the largest one-day leadership event in the world, broadcast live each May from Atlanta to hundreds of Host Sites. This event will showcase leadership experts to help attendees master the art and science of developing and leading healthy teams.

Tickets are \$75/person or \$400/table of 6

More info available at live.leadercast.com

Reserve your spot today.



On May 18th Desha FBC will host their ladies annual tea in the Family Life Center at 2pm. They will have a guest speaker and a time of food and fellowship. Please RSVP by May 16th by calling the church at 870-251-2977.

Sulphur Rock Baptist Church
Making Choices

The Armor Now What? of God

June 14 - 6:00 PM
June 15 - 8:30 AM - Noon

COST: \$10.00
Includes three meals and materials.

For tickets, contact tammy.gillmore@gmail.com



Have any church news??

Please submit it to the Association office no later than the 15th of the month to make the next month's Independence Baptist Association Servant Heart Newsletter. You can submit an article, a weekly bulletin or the event details by emailing it to Kathy at: independence613@gmail.com

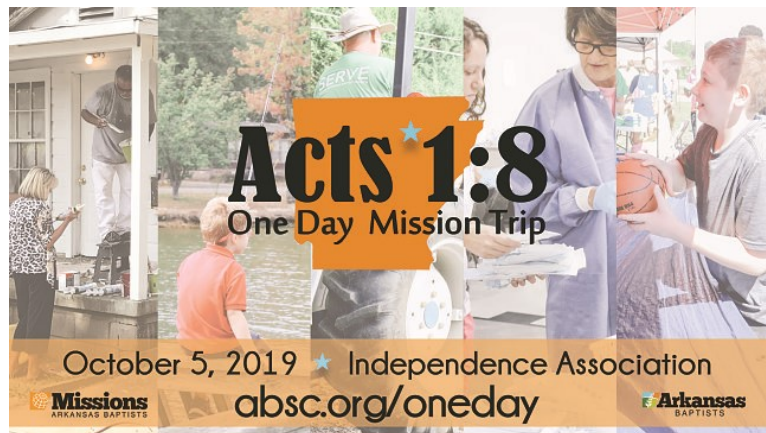
ABSC Events May 2019



Central Baptist Church
3707 Harrisburg Rd, Jonesboro
Monday, May 13
9:30 AM-2:30 PM
\$10 per person (includes lunch)

Arkansas Baptist State Convention Building
10 Remington Dr., Little Rock
Tuesday, May 21
10 AM-3 PM

The current IBA **Pastorless Churches** are Pleasant Plains, Rehobeth, and Ruddell Hill. Please be in prayer for these churches as they seek God's guidance in searching for a pastor for their congregations.



If you are interested in being a **Site Leader** for one of the following ministries for Acts 1:8 contact Kathy at the IBA office.

Prayer walking, Children's Activities, Senior Adult, Home Repairs, Sports Camps, Evangelism, Yard Work, Block Party, Medical/Dental Clinic or Children's Fishing Derby.

First Site Leader meeting—June 20th at Compass at 7:00pm



VBS CLINIC

Monticello
9am to 12:15pm



Women's Event

Sponsored by:
Rocky Bayou Baptist Assoc.
PO Box 59,
Franklin, AR
72536

For more info
and to register
call:
870-322-8458



FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, CHEROKEE VILLAGE
Saturday, May 18, 2019 * 8:30 am to 2:30 pm

COST: \$15.00 before May 10th / \$20.00 after May 10th
Price includes Breakfast & Lunch, and Childcare

SPEAKER: Doris Courtney

Fire, Police, EMS FREE CHECK UP



870-793-0071
www.nikkipenn.com
info@nikkipenn.com
NIKKI PENN
COUNSELING & CONSULTING, LLC
1275 E. College Street
Batesville, AR 72501

WHAT: This totally confidential stress checkup consists of a 30 minute meeting: 10 minutes to fill out a questionnaire and 20 minutes to discuss the results and get practical tips, information, and recommendations.
WHEN: Call to get a time that best suits your schedule, during the month of May.
WHERE: Nikki Penn Counseling & Consulting
1275 E. College Street, Batesville, AR 72501
COST: The checkup is free. If needed or desired, you may qualify for 1-3 sessions with no out of pocket cost.

We want to give back during Fire, Police, and EMS Appreciation Month to those who sacrifice so much for our community! Thank you for all you do!



INDEPENDENCE
BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

PO Box 2112
Batesville, AR 72503

Association Staff

Missionary - Ronnie Toon

Administrative Assistant - Kathy Wilkerson

Camp Manager - Terry Buie

Chaplain - Richard Nuckolls

Counselor - Nikki Penn, LPC-S, LMFT-S, DCC

Contact us at:

Phone: 870-793-7162

Fax: 870-612-5173

Emails:

Ronnie: ronaldtoon@gmail.com

IBA/Kathy:

independence613@gmail.com

Website:

www.independencebaptistassociation.org

Nikki Penn's Office is located at

1275 E. College Street

Office phone: 870-793-0071



Birthdays

9th Jonathan Baxter, Pilgrims Rest

12th Catherine Baxter, Pilgrims Rest

19th Adrienne Ingram, FBC, Mountain View

Anniversaries

27th Bobby & Johnnie Walker, Retired

28th Lance & Beth Hames, 3 Crosses Cowboy

National Day of Prayer
Thursday, May 2nd



★ PRAY FOR AMERICA ★

**LOVE ONE
ANOTHER**



John 13:34

“Love one
another.
Just as I
have loved
you.”

